(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Central Excise duty on aerated waters was increased in 1987 Budget. The benefit of MODVAT was simultaneously extended to aerated waters.

(b) and (c) It was observed that the increase in the wholesale and the retail prices of aerated waters immediately after 1987 budget was much higher than what was warranted by the above changes. In the circumstances, it was considered that there was no need to continue the benefit under the MODVAT scheme in the case of aerated waters and accordingly, it was withdrawan with effect from the 1st October, 1987.

Production by spinning mills in Orissa

1513. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some spinning mills set up in Orissa have started commercial production;

(b) if so, what are the names of those mills and since when commercial production commenced in those spinning mills; and

(c) what is the caapacity of those mills and to what extent production has started in those mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) In the absence of definite period to which the question relates, it is difficult to furnish the information asked for.

Financial assistance given by banks in Orissa

1514. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total financial assistance given by banks in Orissa to beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme so far;

(b) how does it compare with other States; and

(c) what is the rate of recovery of these loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) According to latest information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the outstanding advances of the public sector banks in Orissa under the Twenty Point Programme (TPP) were Rs. 186.17 crores in 5.11 lakh borrowal accounts. RBI has reported that, by and large, the performance of banks in providing credit under the Programme in Orissa compares favourably with the performance in other States.

(c) RBI has reported that the present information system does not generate separate data on recovery of loans granted under 20-Point Programme.

Supply of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu

1515. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government requested the Central Government to intervene in the Cauvery Water Dispute between Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry;

(b) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government ignored previous agreement which was entered into between the Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Government; and

(c) what steps the Government of India have taken for the supply of Cauvery Water to Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry for irrigation purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some projects have been taken up in Karnataka without clearance by the Planning Commission. Karnataka